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Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-035
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Takashi Tsurumoto

Application No.: 09/134,270

Group Art Unit: 2611

Filed: August 14, 1998

Examiner:

H. B. Lonsberry

For: INFORMATION PROVIDING APPARATUS
AND METHOD, INFORMATION
RECEIVING APPARATUS AND METHOD,
INFORMATION PROVIDING SYSTEM,
AND TRANSMISSION MEDIUM

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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Technology Center 2600

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated February 13, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

CM
7-21-06
CLEAN COPY OF AMENDED SPECIFICATION PARAGRAPHS:

Amend page ⁴5 line ¹⁴14 - page ⁷10, line ¹⁶16 as follows:

A/ent
The present invention addresses such a situation, and makes possible transmission of many messages without seriously affecting essential video information which is to be transmitted.

According to an aspect of the invention, an information providing apparatus includes first generating means for generating first information including messages; second generating means for generating second information including

A1
cont

In the information receiving apparatus, information receiving method, and transmission medium described above, the messages are extracted from the transmitted signals, and the type of the extracted messages is determined. And according to the result of determination, the on-screen displaying of the messages in relation to the video information is controlled.

In the above-described information providing system, information providing method, and transmission medium, the first information and the second information are synthesized into the EPG information. The messages are extracted from the received signals, and displayed on screen in relation to the video information.

CH
7-21-06

8 *27* *9* *34*
Amend page ~~12~~, line ~~1~~ - page ~~12~~, line ~~19~~ as follows:

A2
cont

An information providing apparatus is provided with the first generating means (for example a DMT generating section 33-9 in FIG. 3) for generating the first information including the messages; the second generating means (for example a rDMT generating section 33-8 in FIG. 3) for generating the second information including indexes to the messages; and the synthesizing means (for example a TS packeting section 35 in FIG. 2) for synthesizing the first information and the second information as EPG information.

An information receiving apparatus is provided with the receiving means (for example a front end section 51 in FIG. 4) for receiving signals which have been transmitted; the extracting means (for example a demultiplexer 57 in FIG. 4) for extracting the messages from the signals received by the receiving means; the determining means (for example steps S1 to S4 in FIG. 15) for determining the types of the messages extracted by the extracting means; and the display control means (for example steps S6 to S9 in FIG. 15) responsive to the result

of determination by the determining means to control the on-screen displaying of the messages in relation to the video information in the messages.

A2 Cont

In an information providing system, the information providing apparatus is provided with the first generating means (for example the DMT generating section 33-9 in FIG. 3) for generating the first information including the messages; the second generating means (for example the REMT generating section 33-8 in FIG. 3) for generating the second information including the indexes to the messages; and the synthesizing means (for example the TS packeting section 35 in FIG. 2) for synthesizing the first and second information as EPG information; and the information receiving apparatus is provided with the receiving means (for example the front end section 51 in FIG. 4) for receiving signals transmitted superimposed on video signals; the extracting means (for example the demultiplexer 57 in FIG. 4) for extracting the messages from the signals received by the receiving means; and the display control means (for example the EPG processor 59 in FIG. 4) for controlling the displaying of the messages extracted by the extracting means in relation to the video information.

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Amend page ³¹~~44~~, line ²⁷~~3~~ - page ³²~~45~~, line ¹⁷~~1~~ as follow:

A3 Cont

As hitherto described, the information providing apparatus, information providing method, and transmission medium, as they are disposed to synthesize EPG information from the first information containing messages and the second information containing indexes to messages, make it possible to transmit many messages while suppressing the effect on video information, which essentially has to be transmitted.

The above-described information receiving apparatus, information receiving method, and transmission medium, as they